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**Statement by Robert Klein, Chair of the Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee Regarding Today's Ruling by the Alameda County Superior Court**

Posted: August 4, 2005

"We are pleased with today's ruling from Alameda County Superior Court. The decision to consolidate the lawsuits will conserve judicial resources in addition to those of the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine.

It's important to note that Judge Sabraw agreed with our observation that 'common questions of law and fact predominate and are significant to the litigation on both actions, including. . . . the constitutionality and validity of Proposition 71.'

These cases address the same questions, and we look forward to settling them in the most efficient and swift manner possible—and to begin funding the most promising stem cell research for patients suffering from chronic disease.

We remain confident in the judicial system of the state of California to bring these lawsuits to their successful conclusion, confirming the constitutionality of Proposition 71. We appreciate the court's recognition of the urgency of resolving this matter so that we can commence the advancement of funds to medical research. This decision will expedite the legal process."

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